

## Highlights from 2016

Wendy MacDougall, Director/Health Officer

*The Mission of the Dunn County Health Department is to promote the health of all people in the community by collaborating with community partners; working toward a safe and healthy environment, preventing disease and disability and promoting positive health practices.*

## 2016 ANNUAL REPORT

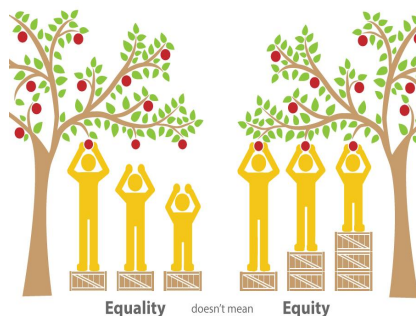
A basic principle of public health is that all people have a right to health.<sup>8</sup> Equity, then, as understood in public health literature and practice, is when everyone has the opportunity to “attain their full health potential” and no one is “disadvantaged from achieving this potential because of their social position or other socially determined circumstance.” Brennan Ramirez LK, Baker EA, Metzler M. Promoting Health Equity: A Resource to Help Communities Address Social Determinants of Health. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health

The Dunn County report of the Committee on Charities, November 12, 1935, organized a County Health Department. The first meeting was held December 6, 1935 and officers were organized, the second meeting was December 24, 1935 and applications were reviewed for the position of County Nurse. The primary work of the nurse included; an infant and maternal health program, prevention and control of communicable diseases, building up the health of school children, tuberculosis control and crippled children's follow up program.

For the past 80 years, the primary work continues, benefited by advances in science and knowledge about disease process, antibiotics and anti-viral medications now available for treatment and new challenges in the areas of chronic disease, emerging infections related to climate change and challenges in protecting environmental health. Our socio-economic climate and health care system also require Public Health examine ways to promote health equity. In other words, equal opportunities to be healthy.

### Health Equity is different from Equality

Health equity is the goal of achieving the highest level of health for all people regardless of differences in social, economic or environmental conditions.



CDC-DHHS-Maine

Health related quality of life is also the focus of the Wisconsin 2020 Health Plan. Wisconsin's Health Plan describes the essential elements of working toward optimal public health as; effective policies and health systems, healthy, safe and resilient communities, families and individuals, reduced disease, injury and disability leading toward the goals of improved health across the lifespan and health equity.

Dunn County committees consistently demonstrate an awareness of community concerns about policies and their

potential impact in areas of health which is a significant component of quality of life.

Our updated Community Health Needs Assessment (2016-2021) identified the following priorities:

- Obesity, Physical Activity & Nutrition
- Mental Health
- Alcohol & other Drug Abuse
- Environment-Natural Resources & Sustainability & the “Built” environment

The Community Foundation of Dunn County approved support for a proposal that provides training to develop a structure for community input into the identified priorities including problem solving and dialogue with policy makers and agency leadership. We look forward to working together on this new model.

This Annual Report is compiled and will be submitted to the WI Department of Health to satisfy the statutory requirement:

DHS 140.06 (2) (c) “a narrative which describes the progress and performance toward achieving the objectives identified as part of the community health assessment.”

The staff continues to fulfill the statutory requirements of a Level 3 public health department. This includes coalition and committee work to improve the health of the community.

#### Health Department Committee

##### Involvement:

Partnership for Youth  
Partners for Resilience  
Mental Health Resource Network  
Bicycle-Ped. Advisory Committee  
Community Crisis Response Team  
Emergency Food & Shelter Coalition  
“Eat Well Dunn County”  
LEPC  
Regional Prenatal Care Workgroup  
Livestock Operations Study Group

#### Dunn County Demographics

*(All 2015 data in parens) Resource: County Health Rankings & US Census & local ROD.*

Population- est. 44,497(44,295)

Births 2016- 447 (454)

13 (21) Births to mothers age= $\leq$ 19

Deaths 2016- 341 (307)

The leading causes of death are diseases of the heart, cancer and accidents.

**Individuals living below poverty-** meaning not enough income to meet basic needs, food, housing, clothes and transportation.

2016 Federal poverty level (100%) for family of 4 is yearly income @ \$24,600. (\$24,250.)

Dunn –15.1% (15%)

State of WI -13% (13.2%)

Median household income:

Dunn \$49,897. (\$48, 893.)

WI \$52,738. (\$52, 413.)

Dunn County children- 16% (16%)

State of WI 18% (18%)

(County Health Rankings 2016, WI DHS, US Census, CDC.)

Per capita funding DCHD

\$13.53 (\$13.37) local taxes

\$30.19 (\$31.27) total funding

The Health Department is funded by:

Local tax levy-

\$599, 639. (\$563,765.)

Grants including state aids-

\$344,047. (\$401,878.)

Program generated revenue –

\$389,022. (\$387,064.)

#### **Public Health Staff & Board of Health**

##### **Public Health Nursing Staff**

Debra Benoit, ADN, RN

Sheila Haugle, BSN, RN

Sara Hegeman, BSN, RN

Carolyn Kuether, BSN, NP

Elizabeth Mitchell, BSN, RN

Dianne Robertson, MSN, NP

Jo Ann Rucker BSN, RN

##### **Public Health Nutrition Staff**

Ellen Blumer, Registered Dietician

Holly Cseter, Dietetic Tech

##### **Environmental Health**

Keith Bergeson, BS, EHS, RS

Thomas Aarrestad, BA, MA, EH Tech

##### **Support Staff**

Sifia Jevne, Fiscal Clerk III

Donna Kraemer, Sec II

Barbara Niemi-Arntzen, Sec II

LeeAnn Wold, Fiscal Clerk I

Zoua Yang, Public Health Tech

##### **Board of Health and Human Services**

The Board of Health is defined in the Public Health Statute 251.03. The local board of health is required to assure that measures are taken to provide an environment in which individuals can be healthy. It consists of elected and appointed members. Appointed members are, by Statute, persons who demonstrate an interest in public health.

##### **Elected Board Members:**

Mary Solberg, Chair

Tom Quinn, Vice

Larry Bjork

Sarah Kennedy

Gary Stene

##### **Appointed Board Members:**

Sarah Schaefer, RN

Colleen Pember

Bill Lamb

#### **BOH Medical Advisors-**

Dr. Carrie Nelson, Dr. Jennifer Strong

#### **WI 2020-Health Focus Area**

#### **Infrastructure: Access to quality Health Services**

##### Program areas:

Public Health Multipurpose Clinics-walk-in and scheduled appointments for TB skin tests, shots, Blood Pressure checks, health education and referrals.

Referrals requiring follow-up- 60 (41)

WWWP-Wisconsin Well Women Program for uninsured or underinsured women ages 50-64 years, enrollment visits with a PHN result in access to pap tests and mammograms. This program transitioned to a regional center in Eau Claire County in July of 2015.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs: We act as a link to family support services with the Regional Center for CYSHCN. In 2015 our mini-grant funding for this program was cut by Chippewa County.

InSPIRE Grant Collaboration with Menomonie School District- Teen parent programming and risk reduction for all students. In 2016 our staff provided mini-seminars on topics important to adolescents. The evaluations indicate increased learning.

Maternal and Child Health (MCH)-We provide support to pregnant women in several program areas including; PNCC, Nurse Family Partnership, WIC, Reproductive Health, and Public Health program areas. The PHNs are the link to early identification of pregnancy, individual support services, receiving early and continuous prenatal care, health and nutrition ed., referrals to community services and accessing and obtaining health and community services.

**Number of PNCC clients-** 105(137) 285(298) visits

We have 2 new initiatives in MCH-one is the Nurse Family Partnership program and one is a Breastfeeding Friendly Initiative. Our NFP enrollment is about half of the eligible and we were successful in recruiting a PHN in this program also. We worked with UW-Stout Child and Family Services and Little Sprouts in the BFF Initiative and are proud to support their work with families/staff.

Oral health care-In 2016 the department provided education, screening and toothbrushes with visits for immunizations, the infant program holiday party and referrals

for dental care to area dentists and RHDC. The RHDC now is a new Marshfield site for a dental center. Only the city of Menomonie and Elk Mound have fluoridated water systems.

**Fluoride supplements: 129 (149) children.**

**Fluoride rinse program: 635 (625) public school children.**

Fluoride is the least expensive and most effective way to reduce tooth decay.

Partners in oral health Programs-Head Start, CVTC, area dental and medical providers, area schools, fluoridated municipal water systems.

#### **Adequate, Appropriate & Safe Food & Nutrition**

The WIC program (Women, Infants and Childhood Nutrition) provides nutrition education and breastfeeding support (initiation rate 75.2% (73.8%)) for Dunn County families as well as supplemental food vouchers to families at or below 185% poverty level. The WIC program was established in 1974 and has earned the reputation of being one of the most successful federally-funded nutrition programs in the U.S.

Number of individuals served/mo – **670 (721)**

Food dollars redeemed-**\$429,888.** (\$483,486.)

Farmer's Market \$ redeemed (**\$2550.**) (\$2294.)

Food insecurity is an issue in Dunn County.

The Environmental Health program inspects and licenses food establishments and the Farmer's Market. We also inspect vendors at community events.

Retail Food Establishments **50 (57)**

Full Service Restaurants **118 (122)**

Temporary Food & Lodging **34 (31)**

Schools **15 (15)**

Unhealthy Alcohol and Drug Use.

The health department participates as a member of the Dunn County Partnership for Youth and Partners for Resilience and the Mental Health Resource Network-coalitions addressing prevention efforts and healthy families

Immunizations for Hepatitis, screening for TB and HIV are also available to high risk adults. Individuals involved in AODA use are at higher risk for these diseases.

#### **Environmental and Occupational Health**

##### Inspections and Licensing

Campgrounds- **6 (6)**

B&B- **5(5)**

Tattoo- **3(2)**

Camps- **3(2)**

Hotels and Motels- **9(8)**

Food & Bev **128 (149)**

Retail **52 (50)**

Tourist Rooming Houses **5 (5)**

Pools **10 (10)**

Hot tubs/Spa **5 (5)**

Water Attractions **2 (2)**

Full Service Restaurants **119 (118)**

Schools **15 (15)**

Temporary Food & Lodging **39 (34)**

**Complaints-EH** responded to **78 (87)** citizen complaints, this can include housing, food service, etc.

Rabies Control Program-Animal bite follow up and education. Rabies is a fatal disease. **In 2016 we had 2 bats test positive for Rabies.**

Dog bites- **28 (44)**

Cat bites- **23 (13)**

Other- **16 (8)**

Radon Information Center-Dunn County coordinates the program testing information and supplies for Dunn, St. Croix, Pierce, Barron and Sawyer Counties. Any elevated test results require follow-up by the Environmental Health Specialist in the county of the test.

Tests completed by homeowners-**260(417)**

Elevated tests-**106 (177)**

Dunn County radon tests- **42 (43)**

Dunn County tests: elevated-**12 (13)**

Well Water and Surface Water Protection- We continue to partner with citizen groups, DNR and the zoning office to protect the groundwater and surface water. The health department offers information about private well water testing as well as test kits. Our website includes test result data for nitrates in Dunn County.

We have many public health partners in Environmental Health, including the DNR and local environmental protection groups. We are dedicated to protecting our valuable natural resources within our scope of authority and as it directly relates to protecting the health of the public.

Private well tests **38 (34)**

DNR contract for well sampling: Total **97 (96)**

Dunn County facilities **77 (78)** (non-transient community wells; i.e. churches, rural restaurants that serve to the public) Return visits **11(21)** Inspections **18 (16.)**

Pepin County facilities, **20 (20)** samples/ **4 (4)** well inspections -Return visits **8 (1).**

Well Delegation 2013 Permits-**94 (106)**

Revenue: **\$7200.** (\$7950.)

Lead Poisoning Prevention and Investigation- We have one PHN and one EHS that maintain certification in lead investigation. Participating families receive lead poisoning prevention screening, tests, and if any levels are elevated, a visit by the EHS and PHN to determine risks and remediation.

Number of children tested for lead:

Total-**285 (284)** Dunn Co HD **104 (121)**

Number of Lead Investigations **3 (4)**

The Environmental Health Specialist provides community education for future food service managers, home builders, realtors and other individuals/groups.

Complaints by citizens re: well water, housing, mold, licensed facilities, hazardous waste-**87 (93)** complaints were followed up and resolved by the EHS.

We contract with La Crosse County to provide habitat surveillance for mosquito-borne disease and work on education about removal of standing water vessels (including discarded tires.)

#### **Reproductive and Sexual Health**

Reproductive Health Program-One NP and one-part time support staff person provided health screening, information, referral and treatment for Dunn County women of childbearing age, men seeking prevention/treatment services and help with medical assistance enrollment. Staffing changes have resulted in gaps in service. We have transitioned to staffing recommended by the NP in exit interview and continue to have program support.

Women receiving Early Identification of Pregnancy program services (pregnancy testing) **118 (102)**

Number of RH clients- Total-**566 (684)** unduplicated clients and a total of: **1561 (2148)** visits.

Community education-PH staff nurses work with schools, agencies and parents, teaching about sexuality issues, healthy relationships and resources.

HIV/STD testing, referral, treatment and education is available within this program.

The HIV follow up has changed to a regional center with Eau Claire County providing the service.

Partners collaborating in outreach for sexual health and education and prevention of risks include; The Bridge, Law Enforcement (City and County), UW-Stout, Marshfield Clinic & Red Cedar-Mayo, WI ARC and WI Department of Public Health.

#### **Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention**

Car Seat Safety program-we provide car seat safety checks for families and have grant funding to provide education and car seats on a sliding fee schedule for donations.

Total number of seats provided & checked -**139 (128)**

Safety: Health Department staff maintain child safety seat certification and present to groups re: child seat safety, provide Facebook and website safety information.

We collaborate with Dunn Co. Solid Waste, Lion's club, Community Health Foundation and RCMC for safe medication and sharps disposal.

WIC and public health/RH: nutrition/diabetes prevention referrals, education and counseling. The prevalence of diabetes risk factors in Dunn County is 8.9% (2013 est.) for all ages of adults.

Our public health clinic is available for blood pressure screening and referral.

We include Back to sleep and Shaken Baby information in our parent teaching for SIDS and Shaken Baby risk reduction.

### **Mental Health**

Postpartum depression screening- Perinatal depression screening is included in the PNCC and WIC programs.

The Public health nursing staff are updating the perinatal and postpartum screening tool and have participated in webinars re: implementing the Edinburgh screening tool. Women won't be screened except in person (not over the phone) but with changes in client visits we have determined we will try it and assess the usefulness.

Mental Health Resource Network: We are partners with other agencies to keep up to date with trends and resources as well as program sharing and development.

The Health Department updates the Dunn County Mental Health Resource brochure. It is posted on our website.

We work with DCHS, UW-Stout, RCMC, Marshfield Clinic, schools and other partners to provide referrals for mental health services.

### **Tobacco Use and Exposure**

PHNs are trained in 5A's assessment and motivational counseling. We have also seen a reduction in resources in this program.

Partners in programming; Wisconsin DPH, American Cancer Society, American Lung Association, School Districts, Mayo-Menomonie, Marshfield Clinic, Arbor Place.

### **Communicable Disease Prevention and Control**

WI Statute HFS 145 requires all reportable communicable diseases to be directed to the local public health agency for investigation, control and prevention of any spread among the population. The WI Electronic Disease Surveillance System-**WEDSS** connects with CDC reporting and we also rely on timely communication from providers.

TB skin testing was provided for **479** (466) persons. We coordinated LTBI (preventive) treatment for **5** (5) people.

### **Vaccines for Children-In 2016-**

**70%** (73%) of Dunn County children under the age of 2 years were up to date with immunizations. We work with schools & the medical community to encourage vaccinations. Our immunization clinic visits have decreased with ACA coverage of shots. Our school summary report indicates there are still a significant number of students whose parents choose not to immunize; the majority of waivers are for "personal" reasons.

Influenza Vaccine-The flu season isn't over as of March 17<sup>th</sup>, while I'm writing this we have Dunn County people hospitalized with Influenza A. In 2016 we totaled 25 cases of influenza associated hospitalizations. We continue to encourage the population to be immunized against Vaccine Preventable Diseases. DCHD gave a total of 324 (359) adult flu shots and 47 (90) children's flu shots in 2016. We had a grant to increase flu shots among adults and assist with documentation of flu shots. The NDC partnered in improving this database.

### Health Screening Stepping Stones Shelter-

Homeless individuals often need assistance accessing health care, and are identified as a population at risk for Tuberculosis. We coordinate with the House of Hope social worker to provide general health screening and referral services with homeless families and individuals. In 2016 we received **5** (36) referrals.

We continue our partnership with the Aids Resource Center of WI to provide free condoms in Dunn County locations. We have provided over 4900 (5430) free condoms to **4** bars and **5** (5) agencies. We also serve as an extension of the ARC site for their outreach prevention services. This is one evidence based strategy with strong support that is part of the response to the known use of heroin/opiates in Dunn County.

Below are case counts of communicable diseases that have been reported to the health department over a three-year period. We receive electronic reports from the WI State Lab of Hygiene, Marshfield Clinic, Mayo Health Systems, UW-Stout, area hospitals. Other reports are phoned in to the health department. We investigate all cases of reportable communicable disease to prevent/control disease spread and protect the public's health.

<b>Infection</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Babesiosis	2	4	1
Blastomycosis	0	0	1
Campylobacter	23	6	17
Chlamydia	154	162	165
Cryptosporidium	7	8	16
STEC	5	1	8
Giardiasis	2	3	5
Gonorrhea	6	10	5
Hepatitis A	0	0	0
Hepatitis B	2	5	2

Hepatitis C	19	23	20
Histoplasmosis	0	1	0
HIV	0	4	1
Influenza-hospital	6	10	25
Legionellosis	1	0	0
LTBI	9	6	4
Meningitis-V/B	0	0	0
Pertussis	51	1	9
Q Fever	0	0	0
Salmonella	7	9	17
Shigellosis	0	1	1
Invasive Strep. (A)	1	3	3
Tuberculosis	0	0	0
Toxoplasmosis	0	0	0
Varicella	5	4	5

### **Students**

Dunn County Health Department continues to serve as a clinical site for the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire School of Nursing. We provide a clinical practice area for senior nursing students in the baccalaureate program. The WIC program provides field experiences for Nutrition students and serves as a preceptor site for the Dietetic Intern program at UW-Stout.

### *2016 Public Health Staff*



### 2016 Note from the Director

*We achieved our 2016 goals including learning about new financial systems, initiating NFP, updating technical equipment for EH staff and strategic planning goals.*

*Our 2017 goals include:*

- 1. Resilience in Transition*
- 2. Continue to support and retain qualified staff.*
- 3. Continue to Develop Strategic Plan.*
- 4. Increase Enrollment in NFP.*

*Respectfully submitted:*

*Wendy MacDougall, RN, MSN, APNP  
Director/Health Officer*

